

Reps. Brett Roberts, Jacobsen, Sheppard, Outman, Canfield, Crawford, Heise, Hoadley, Hooker, Howrylak, Kelly, Lauwers, LaVoy, Maturen, Poleski, Potvin, Price, Webber and Whiteford offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 278.**

A resolution to declare May 2016 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, often known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a neurodegenerative disease that affects muscle control in the body; and

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is caused by motor neuron degeneration in the brain and spinal cord; and

Whereas, The symptoms of this rapidly advancing disease can include difficulty with and the possibility of the inability to walk, speak, eat, and even breathe; and

Whereas, It is estimated that at any given time as many as 30,000 people are living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis in the United States; and

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is very difficult to diagnose as there is no test or procedure to confirm diagnosis; and

Whereas, Life expectancy of those with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis averages between two and five years from the date of the diagnosis; and

Whereas, There is currently no cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, the ALS Association is funding 98 active research projects focusing in six areas of research including therapeutic development, genetics, disease mechanisms, biomarkers, clinical studies, and disease modeling. Only one drug is approved by the FDA to slow the progression of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and it only extends survival by two to three months; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare May 2016 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We urge increased public awareness of this progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects muscle control in the body.